

II. CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A system for accessing data remotely from a network, comprising:

a local network interface permitting data transfer between a local network and an intermediate network;

a remote network interface device permitting data transfer between the intermediate network and a remote network; and

a module located within the intermediate network, through which data transferring between the local network and the remote network passes, the module being configured to receive and process a first data from the remote network and send a different data to the local network based on the first data received from the remote network and to transmit a second data from the intermediate network to the remote network where the second data is related to a predetermined condition of predetermined equipment identified by the module, wherein the remote network receives the second data without an identity of the predetermined equipment associated with the second data being known to the remote network, the module being configured to monitor the predetermined equipment substantially independent of input from the remote network.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the data transfer between each of the networks occurs via the Internet Protocol (IP), and wherein each network has its own unique IP address.

3. (Original) The system of claim 2, wherein the module hides the IP addresses of the remote network and the local network from

each other.

4. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the module exchanges data with an equipment diagnostic monitor system located within the intermediate network, the equipment diagnostic monitoring system being configured to monitor a health of the equipment within the local network and wherein the equipment diagnostic monitor system has the function of monitoring at least one activity of at least one tool residing within the local network.

5. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 4, wherein the equipment diagnostic monitor system collects and analyzes data from tests performed on the at least one tool.

6. (Currently Amended) A system for accessing a local network from a remote network through an intermediate network, comprising:

a local network interface permitting data transfer between the local network and the intermediate network, the local network having a plurality of equipment located within the local network;

a remote network interface permitting data transfer between the remote network and the intermediate network, the remote network having a plurality of users located within the remote network; and

a module located within the intermediate network, the module being configured to receive and process data from at least one of the plurality of users of the remote network and send a different data to at least one of the plurality of equipment of the local network based on the data received from the remote network, the module being further configured to allow one of the plurality of

users to select at least one equipment diagnostic monitor system from a plurality of equipment diagnostic monitoring systems; and

the plurality of equipment diagnostic monitor systems monitoring the health of the plurality of equipment within the local network substantially independent of input from the remote network, and being located within the intermediate network, wherein the plurality of equipment diagnostic monitor systems monitor tests performed on the plurality of equipment residing within the local network;

wherein the module is configured to convey test data related to the plurality of equipment, to users on the remote network, without an identity of the plurality of equipment being known to the remote network.

7. (Original) The system of claim 6, wherein the data transfer between each of the networks occurs via the Internet Protocol (IP).

8. (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein the module hides the IP addresses of the local network and the remote network from each other.

9. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 6, wherein the equipment diagnostic monitor system collects and analyzes data from the at least one activity of the at least one item.

10. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 6, wherein the user on the remote network may request that tests be performed on the at least one item, and may upload data to the remote network, from at least one test performed on the at least one item.

11. (Currently Amended) A data system, comprising:

a local network interface device enabling data transfer between a local network and an intermediate network;

a remote network interface device enabling data transfer between a remote network and the intermediate network; and

a plurality of equipment diagnostic monitor systems for monitoring a health of a plurality of equipment within the local network substantially independent of input from the remote network, the equipment diagnostic monitoring system being located within the intermediate network, wherein the plurality of equipment diagnostic monitor systems monitors at least one activity of at least one of the plurality of equipment in the local network;

wherein the intermediate network is configured to selectively receive and selectively process data from the remote network depending on a set of predetermined criteria applied by the intermediate network and send a different data to the local network based on the selectively processed data and to transmit a second data from the intermediate network to the remote network where the second data is related to a predetermined condition of predetermined equipment identified by the equipment diagnostic monitor system, wherein the remote network receives the second data without an identity of the predetermined equipment associated with the second data being known to the remote network.

12. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, further comprising a security module located within the intermediate network, through which data transferred between the local network and the remote network passes.

13. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12, wherein data

transfer between each of the networks occurs via an Internet Protocol (IP).

14. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 13, wherein the module hides an IP addresses of the local network and the remote network from each other.

15. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the equipment diagnostic monitor system collects and analyzes data from tests performed on the at least one item.

16. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the equipment diagnostic monitor system is configured to execute or ignore a request by the user on the remote network based on the set of predetermined criteria, wherein the user requests that tests be performed on the at least one item, and that data from previous tests performed on the at least one item be uploaded.

17. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the user on the remote network sends a suggestion regarding an operation of the at least one item being monitored to an entity managing the at least one item on the local network.

18. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the equipment diagnostic monitor system sends an alert to a predetermined entity when an analysis of data received from the at least one item indicates that the at least one item is operating outside of a predetermined performance range.

19. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11 further comprising a remote control proxy server in the intermediate network that is between the local network and the remote network that prevents direct IP routing of a device in the local network that is being accessed by the remote network.

20. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11 further comprising a semiconductor tool coupled to the local network, the user being able to access the semiconductor tool via the remote network.

21. (Previously presented) The system of claim 20, wherein the intermediate network further comprises an equipment diagnostic monitor system that monitors and analyzes the semiconductor tool.

22. (Previously presented) The system of claim 21, wherein the equipment diagnostic monitor system controls tests performed by software within the semiconductor tool, saves data from the tests and sends out alerts to a remote user via the remote network when the semiconductor tool is operating outside a predetermined performance range.

23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, wherein the equipment diagnostic monitor system effects access to the semiconductor tool by a remote user.

24. (Currently Amended) A data system for accessing remote equipment, comprising:

a first network interface device enabling data transfer between a local network and an intermediate network;

a second network interface device enabling data transfer between a remote network and the intermediate network; and

an equipment diagnostic monitor system configured to allow a user of the remote network to remotely control a diagnostic test performed on predetermined equipment for monitoring a health of the predetermined equipment without an identity of the predetermined equipment being known to the user of the remote

network, the predetermined equipment being located in the local network, the equipment diagnostic monitoring system being located within the intermediate network, the equipment diagnostic monitoring system having at least a monitoring module, an analysis module, an alerts module and an active transfer module;

wherein the equipment diagnostic monitor system is configured to monitor at least one activity performed on the predetermined equipment in the local network substantially independent of input from the remote network and the intermediate network is configured to receive and selectively process data from the remote network depending on a set of predetermined criteria applied by the intermediate network and send the processed data to the local network.

25. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 24, further comprising a security module located within the intermediate network, through which data transferred between the local network and the remote network passes.

26. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 25, wherein data transfer between each of the networks occurs via an Internet Protocol (IP).

27. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 26, wherein the security module hides an IP addresses of the local network and the remote network from each other.

28. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 24, wherein the equipment diagnostic monitor system is configured to collect and analyze data from at least one test performed on the equipment.

29. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 24, wherein the equipment diagnostic monitor system is configured to execute or

ignore a request from the user on the remote network based on a set of predetermined criteria, wherein the user requests that tests be performed on the equipment, and that other data be uploaded from previous tests performed on the equipment.

30. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 24, wherein the local network is configured to receive and display a suggestion from the user on the remote network regarding the operation of the equipment being monitored on the local network.

31. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 24, wherein the equipment diagnostic monitor system is configured to send an alert to a predetermined entity when the analysis of the data indicates that the equipment is operating outside of a predetermined performance range.

32. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 24, further comprising an interface proxy located in the intermediate network, the interface proxy being configured to permit data transfer between the equipment diagnostic system and the remote network.

33. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the intermediate network is configured to accept or reject information transmitted by the remote network depending on a set of predetermined criteria applied by the intermediate network.

34. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 6, wherein the data is selectively passed between the local network and the remote network depending on a set of predetermined criteria applied by the intermediate network.

35. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein,

the local network comprises at least one semiconductor processing tool and semiconductor processing tool monitoring equipment;

the intermediate network comprises an equipment diagnostic monitoring system configured to monitor and analyze the at least one semiconductor processing tool and having at least a monitoring module, an analysis module, an alerts module and an active transfer module; and

the remote network comprises remote control equipment configured to allow a user remote access to the at least one semiconductor processing tool.

36. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the at least one item in the local network is a semiconductor processing tool.